

8.1 Overview

The contribution that parks and open spaces make to quality of life is continually being quantified by more and more research. This research shows that there is a direct relationship between the amount of green space in a community and positive physical and psychological health of its citizens. Parks also have economic benefits in the form of increased property values and tourism attraction. They benefit the environment in the form of pollution control. The social benefits resulting from interaction and play have been documented.

This element of the plan is a general assessment of community-wide park land needs. It is not a detailed assessment of equipment and facility needs per park type or within any individual park. The City of Bryan adopted a detailed plan in 2002, *Parks, Open Space and Trail Master Plan/Recovery Action Plan* (2002 Parks Plan). The document was prepared by Halff Associates, Inc. The 2002 Parks Plan was not incorporated into the City of Bryan Comprehensive Plan at that time.



Tanglewood Park

Texas courts have held that the exaction of land and funds for park improvements is a valid exercise as long as each is utilized within close proximity to the development from which it came. For this reason the City of Bryan adopted “parks zones”, geographic areas within which parkland dedications can occur. The park zone map (Figure 8-1) is included in the Comprehensive Plan as support for any parkland dedication ordinance.

8.1 Impacts of Growth & Demographics

Bryan continues to grow steadily. The 2005 population estimate from the Texas State Data Center for the City of Bryan was 69,396 and projections to 2010 still show a population of over 75,000 residents. County projections show that growth will continue to over 170,000 persons by 2010. County projections are important to track, as parks users are not limited by local corporate boundaries. The demand for facilities and services comes from a larger population than just those residents within the City of Bryan.

Changing demographics is one factor that influences park facility needs. For example, an aging population may require reviewing the types of facilities placed in neighborhood parks. Older residents may prefer walking trails, benches and lighting as opposed to more active play facilities. Facilities appropriate for the various user groups, including those with special needs, are necessary for a successful parks program.

8.2 Types of Parks

There are several classifications for parks within the City of Bryan, ranging from very small one-half acre color spots (areas for seasonal plantings) to large community or special purpose facilities for the more active recreational users.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are the most numerous type of park and provide opportunities within a neighborhood that are easily accessible by foot or bicycle traffic. These parks are typically no more than 10 acres in size and generally serve residents within a ¼ mile radius. When possible, neighborhood parks should be centrally located in the service area and should be accessible to children via safe pedestrian ways and without crossing major



Villa West Neighborhood Park

arterial streets. Neighborhood parks are often a shared facility with a local elementary school. Facilities generally located in neighborhood parks include playground equipment, unlighted practice fields, active areas for unorganized play, picnic areas with benches, picnic tables and cooking grills, shade structures, and security lighting.

Community Parks

Community parks are larger than neighborhood parks and range in size from 10 to 50 acres. Community parks serve the entire community. Residents near by may walk to these facilities while often times residents farther away will drive to a community park. Community parks generally have a variety of facilities for both passive and active users. Facilities in community parks may include play equipment, picnic areas, pavilion(s), restrooms, jogging, bicycle or nature trails, lighted ball fields, off-street parking, security lighting and or other unique features.



Tanglewood Community Park Pavilion

Special Purpose Parks

These parks provide a variety of special passive and active recreational opportunities for users and may contain special or unique topography or other physical features. They may include special facilities such as swimming pools, golf courses, athletic fields, a system of trails or linear parks.

Color spots, which are very small green areas where one might find flowers or a bench, may be accessed by pedestrians or cyclists and are also a special kind of park facility.



*Henderson park Swimming Facility
& Ball Fields*

8.3 Recommendations from 2002 Parks Plan

The 2002 Parks Plan contained a prioritized list of needs that were developed through an extensive public involvement process. These needs are listed below:

- Jogging and bicycle trails
- Picnic facilities
- Large outdoor pavilion
- Playgrounds
- Indoor Recreation Center
- New Aquatics facilities
- Nature trails
- Softball fields
- Baseball fields
- Soccer fields

Actions for short, medium and long-term time frames were developed to address the prioritized list of needs. Actions to be taken over the subsequent five-year period are listed below:

1. Develop two neighborhood parks north & south of State Highway 21
2. Expand Henderson Park
3. Add four to seven miles of trails throughout City
4. Add a joint use school and park facility in north Bryan
5. Develop an aquatic addition at Henderson Park

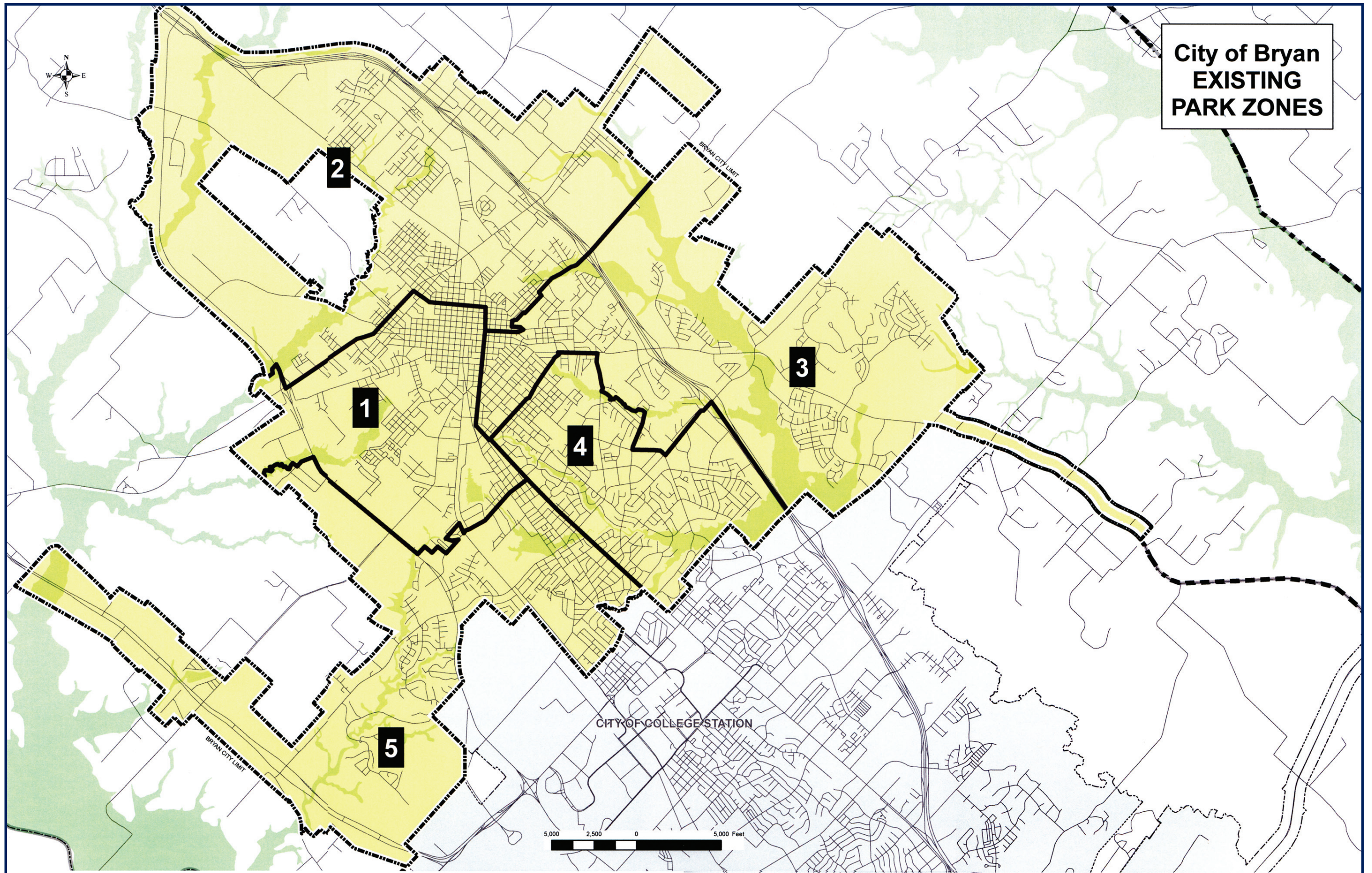
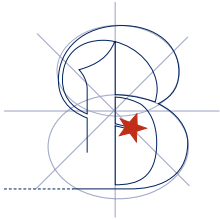


Figure 8-1 Existing Park Zones



6. Develop a city-wide indoor recreation center
7. Develop the initial phase of a Carter Creek Linear Park in eastern Bryan
8. Develop a Downtown Civic park
9. Provide additional athletic facilities for soccer, baseball and softball

Actions to be taken beyond 2007 were:

1. Develop four to six miles of trails
2. Acquire community parkland in the far eastern and western areas of Bryan
3. Initiate planning for a regional park along the Brazos River
4. Acquire City-wide linear park corridors & greenbelts throughout the City
5. Develop community parks in east and west

8.4 Accomplishments since 2002

The City of Bryan has made significant progress regarding the recommended actions identified in the 2002 Parks Plan. Six new neighborhood parks were added: Allen / Symphony, Cherry, Cottage Grove, Shirewood, Miramont, and the Visitor Center. Henderson Park was expanded by adding 32 acres to the existing 20 acre park, making it one of the larger community parks within the City.

Additional athletic facilities were added in several locations. One youth softball and 7 practice fields were added to Henderson Park as well as three lighted baseball fields and adult and practice soccer fields. Baseball backstops were also added to Federal, Tiffany and Travis parks. Renovations to the Sadie Thomas Baseball Field were completed and practice soccer goals were added to Travis, Copperfield, Tiffany, Winchester, Sadie Thomas, and San Jacinto parks.

Nature trails were constructed in Cherry, Crescent, Scurry, Henderson, Camelot, Tiffany, Redbud, Allen / Symphony and Turkey Creek parks.

In addition, a new swimming pool was added at Henderson Park and a joint venture with BISD for a natatorium is under consideration. The fountain at Tiffany Park was renovated into a splash pad and a new splash pad was added to Tanglewood Park. At this time, no new indoor recreation facility is planned although renovations to Neal Recreation Center have included a new gym floor as well as flooring and paint in other areas in addition to a new computer room.

Picnic facilities and playgrounds have been added throughout the city. Tables and grills were placed in Cherry, Williamson, Henderson, Tiffany, Bonham, Shirewood, Washington, Haswell and Scurry parks. Picnic pavilions were installed in Haswell, Tiffany and Henderson parks. Restroom facilities were added to Haswell, Henderson and Tanglewood parks. Deteriorated playgrounds were replaced at Bryan Recreational Athletic Complex (BRAC), Tanglewood and Bonham and new playgrounds added at Henderson, Scurry, Sadie Thomas, Cherry and Shirewood parks.

8.5 Parks Inventory

As of March 2006, the City is maintaining 27 neighborhood parks (totaling 162 acres), 10 community parks (totally 287 acres), as well as 7 special purpose facilities which include the Bryan Recreational Athletic Complex, the Travis Athletic Complex, Neal Recreation Center, The Palace Theater, Bryan Aquatic Center, Bryan High Tennis Center, the Municipal Golf Course and eleven color spots. 1060-acre Lake Bryan is located outside the City limits and is managed by Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU).

Tables 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 list park facilities maintained by the City of Bryan.

Table 8.1

Neighborhood Parks

(* signifies parks added since 2002)

| | Park Name | Size in Acres | Park District (Zone) | Status |
|----|---|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Allen / Symphony* | 6 | 3 | undeveloped |
| 2 | Bonham | 12 | 2 | |
| 3 | Camelot Park | 21 | 3 & 4 | |
| 4 | Castle Heights | 7 | 2 | |
| 5 | Cherry Park* | 4 | 4 | |
| 6 | Crescent Park | 2 | 5 | |
| 7 | Copperfield | 6 | 3 | |
| 8 | Cottage Grove* | 6 | 1 | undeveloped |
| 9 | Coulter | .1 | 1 | historic marker |
| 10 | Federal | 5 | 3 | |
| 11 | Heritage | 2 | 3 | |
| 12 | Lions Recreational | 1 | 2 | |
| 13 | Garden Acres | 1 | 4 | |
| 14 | Miracle Place | 5 | 4 | undeveloped / drainage area |
| 15 | Miramont* | 6 | 3 | undeveloped |
| 16 | Neal | 12 | 1 | |
| 17 | Redbud | 1 | 5 | |
| 18 | San Jacinto | 2 | 2 | |
| 19 | Scurry | 7 | 2 | |
| 20 | Shirewood | .5 | 5 | |
| 21 | Tiffany | 13 | 3 | |
| 22 | Turkey Creek (Formerly Carriage Hills and Rock Hollow) | 17.5 | 5 | |
| 23 | Villa West | 10 | 5 | |
| 24 | Villa Maria | 1 | 5 | undeveloped |
| 25 | Visitor Center* | 1 | 3 | undeveloped |
| 26 | Washington | 1 | 2 | |
| 27 | Winchester | 10.5 | 3 | |

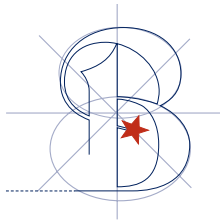


Table 8.2

| Community Parks (* signifies parks added since 2002) | | | | |
|---|---|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Park Name | Size in Acres | Park District (Zone) | Status |
| 1 | Astin Recreation Area adjoining Williamson Park | 12 | 5 | |
| 2 | Austin's Colony / Austin's Colony Parkway | 43 | 3 | 6 of 43 acres are undeveloped |
| 3 | Sue Haswell | 19.3 | 3 | |
| 4 | Henderson* | 52 | 1 | 32 of 52 acres were added since 2002 |
| 5 | Park Hudson Trail* | 59 | 3 | undeveloped |
| 6 | Sadie Thomas | 14.9 | 2 | |
| 7 | Sam Rayburn | 23 | 3 | |
| 8 | Tanglewood | 19.2 | 4 | |
| 9 | Williamson | 19 | 5 | |
| 10 | Jane Long | 26 | 1 | |

Table 8.3

| Special Purpose Parks and Open Space | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| | Park Name | Size in Acres |
| 1 | Bryan Regional Athletic Complex offers baseball, softball and soccer fields. There are courts and playgrounds as well as concessions and restroom facilities. | 120 |
| 2 | Travis Athletic Complex offers baseball, softball and t-ball fields along with restroom and concession facilities. | 22 |
| 3 | Bryan Aquatic Center has an Olympic-sized lap pool, a diving well and a waterslide and is near Bryan high School. | 3 |
| 4 | Bryan Tennis Center is adjacent to Harvey Mitchell Elementary and has three lighted covered courts on one-half acre. | part of Austin's Colony Park |
| 5 | Bryan High Tennis Courts include nine courts, 3 of which were built by the City of Bryan as part of a joint use agreement with BISD. | .5 part of Bryan High School |
| 6 | Bryan Municipal is an 18-hole golf course | 141 |
| 7 | The Palace Theater is an open-air facility used for concerts, movies and other outdoor venues. | .5 |
| 8 | Neal Recreation Center | 12 |

Figure 8.2 indicates current park facilities by park zone.

The eleven color spots maintained by the City of Bryan include:

- Barbara's Byway on FM 2818
- Briarcrest & Hwy 6
- Crescent triangle
- Freedom Boulevard
- Garden Acres Boulevard
- Heritage triangle

- Marketplace Bed
- Moran Boulevard
- Shady Point
- Twin Boulevard
- N. Texas Avenue & Hwy 21

The City and BISD have actively pursued agreements that allow for the joint use of facilities, particularly where neighborhood parks can be located adjacent to school sites. The following list highlights this cooperative effort.

- Tiffany Park adjoining Bowen Elementary
- Villa West Park adjacent to Branch Elementary
- Neal Recreation Center adjoining Neal Elementary
- Austin's Colony Park adjacent to Mitchell Elementary
- Cherry Park adjoining Johnson Elementary
- Henderson Park's newest section near Milam Elementary
- Jane Long Park adjacent to Jane Long Middle School
- Sam Rayburn Park adjoining Sam Rayburn Middle School

8.6 Public Input

Public input is important in assessing a city's needs for recreational facilities. The 2002 Parks Plan process gathered detailed public input through surveys and public meetings. A comparison of comments received as part of the 2002 Parks Plan, to comments received during this Comprehensive Plan Update, shows that Bryan residents still support the goals and objectives developed in the 2002 Parks Plan.

The public input received suggests that citizens generally support the acquisition of parkland by the City prior to development, to ensure an adequate distribution of parks. There is a perceived shortage of parkland in some portions of the city. Insufficient funding for parks maintenance and acquisition and the dissolution of a large portion of the Parks Department several years ago was an often-stated concern. With the changing demographics, residents expressed the desire for neighborhood parks to be flexible to adapt to changing needs of Bryan's increasingly diverse and aging population. Others suggested the creation of more meeting space in the community, particularly the retired population.

There is still support for the preservation of green space throughout the community. This was a theme that was consistently expressed in all the different public input forums. Comments indicated that there may be support for the City becoming more pro-active about preserving greenways and floodplain areas where possible.

A great deal of support for pedestrian and bicycle connectivity was evident. Numerous comments were received regarding the need for sidewalks to be added in existing developed areas. More and more people are thinking of cycling as a transportation form and not just a recreational activity.

Comments gained throughout the public involvement process during this Comprehensive Plan Update reveal a perception that more funding is needed for the maintenance and acquisition of parklands. The concern was expressed that the recent downsizing of the Parks Department (an action that is currently being reversed), has diverted attention from these maintenance and acquisition needs. There is still strong support for continuing the partnership between the City of Bryan and BISD in providing parks and facilities for the community's residents, specifically school age children.

8.7 Goals & Objectives

The following goals and objective statements from the 2002 Parks Plan were reviewed by the CPAC. They are incorporated herein as they continue to address the needs and

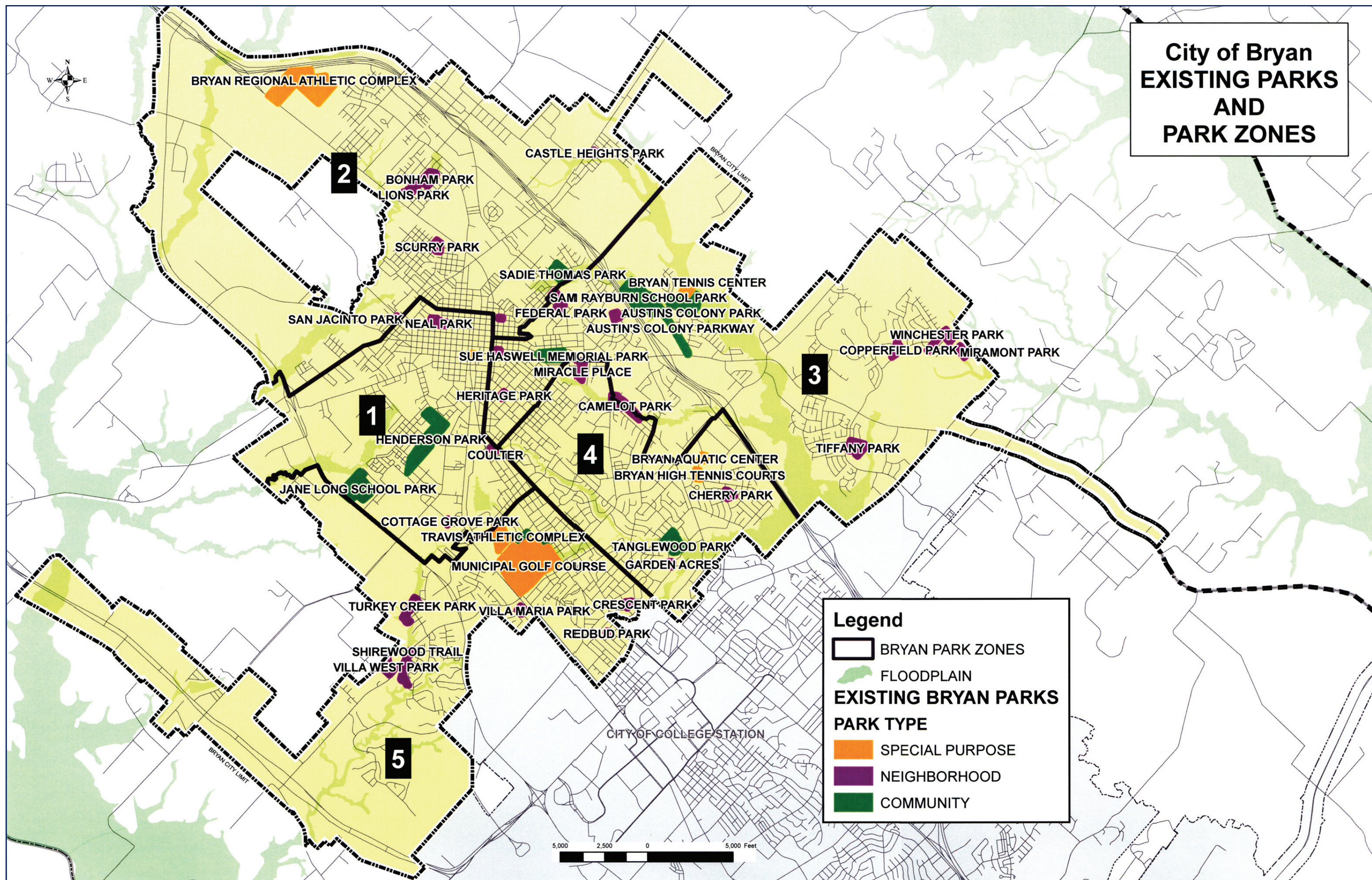
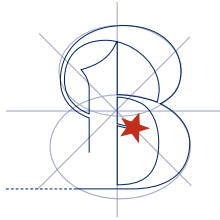


Figure 8-2 Existing Parks and Park Zones



concerns expressed by the citizens of Bryan regarding parks and facilities within their community. To continue meeting these established goals and objectives and respond to input received during the 2006 Comprehensive Plan Update process, the action statements listed below are recommended for implementation by 2020. At the end of each action statement there is a recommended time frame for implementation or a note that the particular action should be on-going.

GOAL # 1: Provide an adequate distribution of park facilities throughout the City.

Objective A: Implement a long-range program for expansion and development based upon the Master Plan.

Action Statement 1: (On-going) Review and update the parkland dedication ordinance every three years. The intent should be to review service level targets, examine current land costs and the cost of park development. The latest Census data should be incorporated and dedication requirements adjusted accordingly to maintain service levels.

Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Continue the reorganization of staff and reallocation of funding to reinstate a fully functioning Parks and Recreation Department. This is imperative to meeting the concerns regarding long-term maintenance and to avoid the parkland shortfall projected with the population growth anticipated over the next 15 years.

Objective B: Identify

Action Statement 1: (On-going) Update the parkland inventory annually to assess any acreage shortfall.

Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Investigate other sources of revenue including matching grants for specific projects, capital improvement funding and other public and private sources.

Action Statement 3: (2007 - 2012) Establish one additional neighborhood park in District 1.

Action Statement 4: (2007 - 2012) Establish one additional neighborhood park in District 2.

Action Statement 5: (2007 - 2012) Establish one additional community park on the far east side of the City and develop initial phases as population growth in the eastern part of the city increases.

Action Statement 6: (2007 - 2012) Establish one additional community park west of Earl Rudder Freeway in Central Bryan somewhere in district 3 or 4 to "close the gap" in the distance between Tanglewood and Haswell parks.

Action Statement 7: (2007 - 2012) Investigate a downtown civic park to determine if there is sufficient support to warrant expenditure for this new facility.

Action Statement 8: (2007 - 2020) Establish one additional community park on the far west side of Bryan and develop initial phases as population growth in the western part of the city increases.

Objective C: Preserve the ability to respond to unique acquisition or development opportunities as they arise.

Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Develop criteria to evaluate unique park opportunities when they occur.

Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Investigate sources of revenue that will facilitate quick response to unique park acquisition and development opportunities.

Objective D: Provide adequate funding and resources to ensure the park and recreation needs of all citizens are met.

Action Statement 1: (On-going) Regularly investigate other sources of revenue including matching grants for specific projects, capital improvement funding and other public and private sources.

Action Statement 2: (On-going) Continue to update the parkland dedication ordinance every three years as park land and development costs increase over time.

Action Statement 3: (On-going) Continue to evaluate user fees to determine if they adequately cover costs of maintenance.

Objective E: Encourage citizens to participate in planning, development, maintenance and operation of the City's parks and open space system.

Action Statement 1: (On-going) Continue Parks and Recreation Department recent marketing efforts to improve public awareness of programs and facilities, using all forms of available media and coordination with other departments and organizations.

Action Statement 2: (On-going) Regularly seek public input to monitor changing needs. This can be accomplished through public meetings, citizen surveys and simply keeping track of citizen calls expressing needs relative to the parks system.

Action Statement 3: (2007 - 2012) Identify ways for citizens to participate in parks planning, development, maintenance and operations as appropriate and make this information available to the public.

Objective F: Periodically update master plan and standards to reflect changing conditions and to provide a forum for citizen input.

Action Statement 1: (On-going) Regularly seek public input to monitor changing needs. This can be accomplished through public meetings, citizen surveys and simply keeping track of citizen calls expressing needs relative to the parks system.

GOAL # 2: Continue to provide a diversity of recreational activities at appropriate locations throughout the City.

Objective A: Interpret and prioritize citizen needs and desires for recreational facilities.

Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) The Parks Board should discuss and recommend whether to continue to pursue smaller scale parks rather than larger sized parks considering the increased costs associated with maintaining smaller scattered parks throughout the City.

Action Statement 2: (On-going) Continue Parks and Recreation Department recent marketing efforts to improve public awareness of programs and facilities, using all forms of available media and coordination with other departments and organizations.

Action Statement 3: (On-going) B-annually seek public input to monitor changing needs. This can be accomplished through public meetings, citizen surveys and simply keeping track of citizen calls expressing needs relative to the parks system.

Objective B: Provide facilities for a wide range of both active and passive recreational activities for all age and socio-economic groups.

Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Acquire land and design a new community center containing meeting space, facilities for indoor recreation and room for senior activities should be initiated.

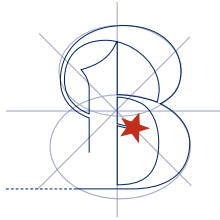
Action Statement 2: (2012 - 2020) Construct a new community center containing meeting space, facilities for indoor recreation and room for senior activities should be initiated.

Action Statement 3: (2007 - 2012) The Parks Board should discuss and recommend whether to continue to pursue smaller scale parks rather than larger sized parks considering the increased costs associated with maintaining smaller scattered parks throughout the City.

GOAL # 3: Preserve and protect unique open spaces, river corridors, drainage corridors and green spaces with the City and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Objective A: Establish criteria to identify key open space areas and natural areas worthy of preservation throughout the City and ETJ.

Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Create an inventory of open space and natural features.



- Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Establish an internal Task Force representing Parks, Planning, Engineering and Public Works to develop criteria to identify key open space areas and natural areas worthy of preservation throughout the City and the ETJ.
- Action statement 3: (2007 - 2012) Develop a prioritized list of key spaces based on the above inventory and criteria.

Objective B: Establish mechanisms to acquire and preserve key open space.

- Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Investigate other sources of revenue including matching grants for specific projects, capital improvement funding and other public and private sources.
- Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Amend existing development regulations to incorporate open space and greenway dedication requirements.

GOAL # 4: Develop a network of pedestrian and bicycle ways for hiking and cycling throughout Bryan.

Objective A: Preserve green-belt linkages throughout the City and the region.

- Action Statement 1: (2012 - 2020) Continue the planning for, acquisition and preservation of linear park corridors and greenbelts throughout the city using major greenbelts, creeks and drainage ways. Acquire these through donation where possible.
- Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Foster the development of parkways along greenbelts by developers as opposed to lots backing up to these green areas. Examine all mechanisms for accomplishing this including, but not limited to, purchase, dedication, donation, and conservation.
- Action Statement 3: (2007 - 2012) Examine subdivision and drainage regulations to include defensible requirements for dedication and conservation.
- Action Statement 4: (2012 - 2020) Continue efforts to develop a linear park along Carter Creek and work with the City of College Station and Brazos County to provide for a regional park facility.
- Action Statement 5: (2007 - 2012) Add additional hike and bike trails to the system as per the Trails Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

Objective B: Actively pursue intergovernmental partnerships to develop greenbelts and trails throughout the Region.

- Action Statement 1 (2012 - 2020) Initiate preliminary planning for a major regional passive park facility along the Brazos River. Consider joint acquisition, development and operation with College Station, Texas A&M University and Brazos County. Consider the possibility of Brazos County taking the lead for development of this 100 to 300 acre open space preserve and recreation facility.

GOAL # 5: Continue to maintain all City of Bryan parks and recreation facilities in a superior condition.

Objective A: Provide the manpower and funding sources to properly maintain all parklands and facilities.

- Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Continue the reorganization of staff and reallocation of funding to reinstate a fully functioning Parks and Recreation Department. This is imperative to meeting the concerns regarding long-term maintenance and to avoid the parkland shortfall projected with the population growth anticipated over the next 15 years.

Objective B: Provide renovation/improvement master plans for each park, and identify a tentative schedule for phasing in improvements.

- Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Continue implementation of facility improvements that were recommended in the 2002 Parks Plan.

Objective C: Address key safety and accessibility needs as quickly as possible.

Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Continue implementation of facility improvements that were recommended in the 2002 Parks Plan. Specifically replace any unsafe structures that still exist.

Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Amend ordinances to incorporate the cost of ADA accessibility needs into the parkland development fee.

Objective D: Formulate innovations to reduce maintenance and irrigation costs in parks and on City properties.

Action Statement 1: (On-going) Continue to annually evaluate user fees to determine if they adequately cover costs of maintenance.

Action Statement 2: (On-going) Continue to annually review park maintenance standards and develop recommendations to achieve reduced maintenance costs.

GOAL #6. JOIN WITH THE BRYAN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF PARKS, MULTIPURPOSE RECREATION AND COMMUNITY CENTERS.

Objective A: Develop a partnership that includes the City, the Bryan Independent School District and neighborhoods to develop parks as part of or adjacent to schools.

Action Statement 1: (2007 - 2012) Execute a joint use agreement between the City of Bryan and BISD to establish a natatorium facility along with the construction of the new Rudder High School.

Action Statement 2: (2007 - 2012) Execute a joint use agreement between the City of Bryan and BISD to establish a park facility along with the construction of the new Davila Middle School.

Action Statement 3: (On-going) Hold an annual joint meeting of the BISD Board and Bryan Parks Board to investigate cooperative ventures such as making gymnasium facilities available to the general public for after hours use.

8.8 Future Parkland Requirements

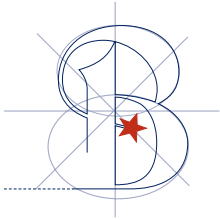
A community assesses its parkland needs by examining how many acres of parkland by type are available for every 1,000 residents. This is its service level. Service levels for parklands were adopted in the 2002 Parks Plan based on recommended standards set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) for the different kinds of park lands. NRPA's recommendations are intended to be used as a guide as each community will have unique geographical, climatic, cultural and socioeconomic characteristics.

The NRPA recommends a total of 6.5 to 10.5 acres of open space per 1,000 population. This open space should consist of a system of parklands of various sizes and distances from residential areas and includes neighborhood and community parks.

NRPA also has standards for each individual type of park. The recommended standard is 1.5 to 2.5 acres per 1,000 for neighborhood parks and 5 to 8 acres per thousand for community parks. Viewed together, neighborhood and community parklands, which are those located in close proximity to residents who use them, should supply the overall recommended ratio of 6.5 to 10.5 acres per 1,000. In 2002 the City's ratio, when taking into account total developed and undeveloped neighborhood and community parkland, was 4.7 acres per 1,000 or slightly lower than the recommended NRPA ratio.

As of 2006, the ratio of neighborhood and community parkland to population had risen to 6.4 acres per 1,000 using a population estimate for 2006 of 70,000. The ratio for neighborhood parkland alone in 2006 is 2.3 acres per 1,000, approaching the high end of the recommended standard, while community parkland is 4.1 or slightly lower than the recommended standard. Since 2002 the City has acquired neighborhood parkland through development but has not acquired enough additional community parkland to improve the service level for that category.

⁶⁶ ¹ Sherer, Paul M. *The Benefits of Parks: Why America Needs More City Parks and Open Space, The Trust for Public Land, 2005*



The City has sufficient inventory to provide for the projected 2010 population. However, not all existing parklands are developed and all efforts should be made to provide facilities in existing parks that are lacking. Furthermore, this level of service of 6.4 acres per 1,000 is at the lower end of the recommended standard and if the City wishes to maintain this service level there must be an on-going program of acquisition and development to keep up with projected community growth beyond 2010. Table 8.4 reflects the need for additional park land beginning in 2010.

Table 8.4

Future Park Acreage Needs

| Standard | 6.5 – 10 | Population | Park acres needed | Additional acres needed |
|----------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 2006 | 6.4 ac. / 1,000 | 70,000 | 450 | None |
| 2010 | | 74,760 | 478 | 28 |
| 2015 | | 80,540 | 515 | 65 |
| 2020 | | 86,760 | 552 | 105 |

Figure 8.3 shows the neighborhood and community parks recommended for acquisition.

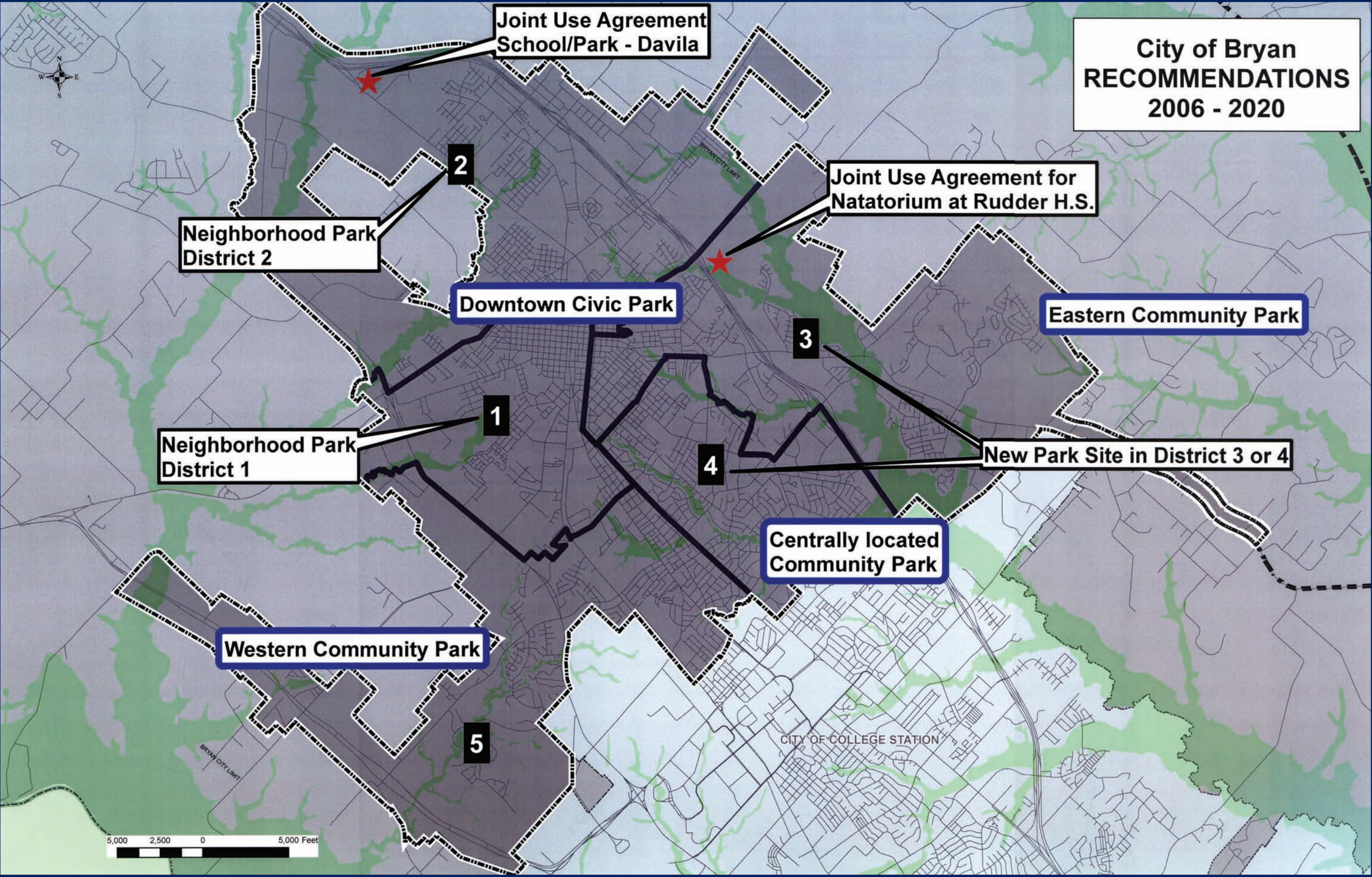


Figure 8-3 Recommended Park and Facility Acquisitions